

Message Text

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46

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 NIC-01 IO-12 RSR-01 /122 W
----- 024308

R 101006 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5117

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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E O 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, CH, TS

SUBJ: RELATIONS WITH COMMUNIST COUNTRIES

1. IN HIS OPENING REMARKS ON NATION- WIDE TELEVISION/ RADIO DISCUSSION MAY 8, PRESIDENT MARCOS STATED GOP IS GIVING ACTIVE CONSIDERATION TO ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH MOSCOW AND PEKING. MARCOS SAID GOP WAS " PLAYING THIS BY EAR" WITH NO DEADLINE DATES IN MIND, BUT THAT STEPS UNDERWAY WOULD INEVITABLY LEAD TO ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, PRESUMABLY APPROXIMATELY SIMULTANEOUSLY, WITH BOTH COUNTRIES.

2. ANSWERING REPORTER' S QUESTION, MARCOS EXPRESSED BELIEF THESE MOVES WOULD HAVE NO EFFECT ON GOP RELATIONS WITH US WHICH, AFTER ALL, NOW HAD DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH USSR AND PRACTICALLY SUCH WITH PRC. MARCOS SKIRTED QUESTION OF TAIPEI BY STATING THAT PHILIPPINES WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE TO BE FRIENDLY WITH ALL NATIONS.

3. COMMENT: PRESIDENT' S REMARKS UNDERSCORE EARLIER INTIMATION BY FONSEC ROMULO THAT GOP ENVISIONS SOMETHING OF A BALANCING ACT BETWEEN PEKING AND MOSCOW IN ITS FOREIGN RELATIONS. SINCE THE
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IDEA OF TIES WITH MOSCOW (ALTHOUGH NOT WITH PEKING) HAS BEEN
TOPIC OF GOP CONSIDERATION FOR FOUR OR MORE YEARS, EARLY
ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH EITHER CANNOT BE ASSUMED TO
BE IMMINENT.
HAMILTON

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NMAFVVZCZ

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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